

well being of her family and service to others framed her entire life. She taught her children by example, reflecting the vital gifts of family unity, reaching out to those in need, hard work and an endless joy for learning and living. Ms. Lehmann's intellectual level was reflected in her numerous and varied life interests. After her children were grown, she enrolled in college, earning a perfect 4.0 grade point average and an associate's degree. Her compassionate heart directed her onto pathways where she gave freely of her time and talent. Ms. Lehmann volunteered at Hillcrest Hospital, worked with special needs children at Millridge Elementary School, read to visually impaired children and volunteered in the gift shop at Cleveland Play House.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Mary Lehmann. Her limitless spirit of giving and endless joy for life has had a profound impact upon the lives of her family, friends and the children and adults whom she so graciously served. I extend my deepest condolences to her children, David, Joan, John and Carol; to her daughters and sons-in-law, Kim, Roger, Melissa and Gil; to her grandchildren, Michael, Jennifer, Eric, Reid, Brittany, Ashley, Jonathon, Gilbert, Elena, Eva, Andrea, Lily and the memory of David; to her companion, Dr. Oscar Stadtler; and to her many extended family members and friends. The kindness, energy, joy and love that defined Mary Lehmann's life will live forever in the hearts of her family and within every soul she touched during her journey here—and she will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR EUGENE
JOSEPH MCCARTHY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the late Senator Eugene Joseph McCarthy, a former member of this body, who passed away on December 10th. Senator McCarthy's home state of Minnesota mourns his passing as a resolute, dedicated public servant, and a national man of conscience.

Eugene McCarthy began his lifelong commitment to learning and teaching at various educational institutions in Minnesota. As a member of the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, he served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives representing Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District from 1949 until 1959, when he began serving the first of two terms in the U.S. Senate. By taking a principled stand against the Vietnam War as a presidential candidate in 1968, he reached out to a disenfranchised generation, inspiring the youth of America to take part in the political process. After failing to receive the Democratic Party's nomination for president, Senator McCarthy continued to serve in the U.S. Senate until 1971 as he continued his dedication to the people of Minnesota and the American public.

His connection to the people he represented was genuine. Senator McCarthy's family and the people of Minnesota can be proud of the legacy that he leaves behind. I am honored to continue to represent many of the same people he served in Congress.

I extend my thoughts and prayers to his daughter Ellen, who continues her father's legacy of public service as a staff person in the U.S. House, as well as his daughter Margaret, his son Michael, his brother Austin, his sister Marian and his six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the life of Senator Eugene McCarthy.

COMMENDING PRC COMPASSION'S
EXTENSIVE CONTRIBUTIONS IN
THE WAKE OF HURRICANES
KATRINA AND RITA

HON. BOBBY JINDAL

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Speaker, it is my unique privilege today to have the rare opportunity to recognize and honor a truly great organization, the Pastor's Resource Council (PRC), and the work of the PRC Compassion. Formed several years ago, the PRC comprises of a coalition of churches and pastors who united together in order to provide relief to the community whenever necessary. For the past several years, the PRC has been playing an indispensable role in serving communities affected by the ravages of natural disasters whether it was through providing shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry, or offering spiritual comfort and guidance to those who needed it among a myriad of other services. True to its name, the PRC has always been there for the people of Louisiana to lend a compassionate, helping hand in the most difficult of times.

The tragedy inflicted upon us by the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita was certainly no exception. As Hurricane Katrina wreaked havoc and destruction over the peoples of the state of Louisiana, PRC once again answered the call of duty and courageous pastors, priests, and other ministers, united in the cause of humanity and service, promptly organized on September 1, 2005 as "PRC Compassion" to provide immediate response to the disasters through compassion and inspiring hope. According to its mission, PRC Compassion coordinates national, state, and local faith and community-based organizations to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of people impacted by Hurricane Katrina. PRC Compassion has worked tirelessly and selflessly to assist those disaster stricken communities in a number of different capacities. The organization's accomplishments in the face of such adversity cannot be overstated: 1,801,200 people served; 253,260 volunteer hours logged; 17,220 tons of food, water and supplies distributed; 11,480 evacuees sheltered; 10,152 volunteers deployed; 4,500 medical encounters facilitated; 676 trained counselors and chaplains mobilized; 250 faith based organizations involved; 84 faith based shelters established; and 16 stress management teams deployed. The organization continues to assist the community today.

While words cannot adequately encapsulate the gratitude and debt the people of Louisiana and the rest of the country owe to this incredible organization, we can pay tribute to the heroic men and women of PRC Compassion by formally recognizing and acknowledging the caliber and breadth of their service to the people of Louisiana. It is for that reason I am

pleased to recognize and commend the heroic, timely, and selfless actions and prayers of the faith community, particularly the actions and prayers of PRC Compassion, in providing assistance and support to the citizens of Louisiana who were displaced by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. While each and every member of PRC Compassion deserves this commendation, I must also recognize the able leadership of the PRC Compassion's Board of Directors, namely Pastor Larry Stockstill of Bethany World Prayer Center in Baton Rouge, LA; Pastor Fred Luter of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans, LA; Pastor Jacob Aranza of Our Savior's Church in Lafayette, LA; Pastor Steve Robinson of Church of the King in Mandeville, LA; Pastor Dennis Watson of Celebration Church in New Orleans, LA; Apostle Willie Wooten of Gideon Christian Fellowship in New Orleans, LA; Dr. Jere Melilli of Christian Life Fellowship in Baton Rouge, LA; and Pastor Dino Rizzo of Healing Place Church in Baton Rouge, LA.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be able to recognize and commend PRC Compassion, who went well above and beyond the call of duty in assisting the peoples of Louisiana during their hour of need.

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND
HEALTH ACT OF 2006

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of January 19, a fire erupted on a conveyor belt at the Aracoma, Alma Number 1 coal mine, in Melville, West Virginia. Black smoke began rolling through that mine. Nineteen miners escaped. Two were missing. It was the beginning of another episode in our recurring nightmare.

West Virginians were still veiled in grief. Still trying to make sense of the loss of 12 miners, taken from us just 17 days before, at the Sago coal mine, in Upshur County. Then it started again.

Media had flooded into Sago. They had covered the waiting, the watching, the praying, and the mourning. Now they were streaming back into West Virginia. And with them, the world was drawn to another coal mining town, this time in Logan County, to witness yet another mine tragedy unfolding.

I stayed with the families, gathered at the Bright Star Freewill Baptist Church. We held hands. We prayed. We believed in the power of miracles. We clung tightly to the hope that those men, dust-covered and weary, would emerge from the Alma mine to the hugs of grateful families.

But, tragically, in the end, our worst fears were realized. Instead of a joyous reunion, our coal communities had lost two more souls. Fourteen men gone in a span of less than three weeks. Two fatal mine tragedies that might have been prevented. Two emergencies that went unreported for far too long. Two anguishing events where time stood still for hours on end, with rescue teams frustrated and idling, and helpless families waiting.

In this age of high-technology, when reporters at the mouth of a mine could beam reports around the Earth in an instant, it defies logic